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REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed March 13, 1.

2003. Claims 4-13 and 15-20 remain pending in this application.

Claim 11 has been amended by incorporating the limitations of 2.

claim 14. Claim 14 has been cancelled.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejections under 35 3.

USC 103.

Trinh teaches a composition for treating fabrics and more

in order to restore specifically clothes (textiles)

maintain freshness by reducing malodor without the need for

washing or dry cleaning.

The compositions disclosed in this document comprise:

solubilized, uncomplexed cyclodextrin: 0.1 - 20 %

(weight),

cyclodextrin-compatible fabric wrinkle control agent,

cyclodextrin compatible antimicrobial activ and/or

cyclodextrin compatible surfactant.

Trinh also discloses a method of treating fabric to reduce

said fabric with an effective amount the wrinkles in of

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composition above described, said composition being applied as

very small droplets.

According to the Examiner, Trinh teaches a composition for

treating textiles comprising a cyclodextrin and polycarboxylic

acid and further comprising a catalyst and insect repellent.

The Applicant believes that the composition disclosed by

Trinh differs significantly from the composition of the present

application. The Trinh composition comprise

ingredients: cyclodextrin, wrinkle control agent, antimicrobial

agent, surfactant. Each ingredient is meant to produce its own

effect on the textile to which it is applied, alone and not by

interaction with another ingredient(s) of the composition, the

condition imposed being the compatibility only with

cyclodextrin.

In the present application, the ingredients from each of

the two groups of materials: 1 and 2 (as defined in claim 11) of

mixture, participate effectively to chemical

(copolymerisation, cross linking) which have as result:

in a first embodiment, the chemical fixation of the

copolymer to the fiber via covalent bonds;

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in the second embodiment, the mechanical fixation by

cross linking via a three dimensional network.

words, In other the fact that there is а chemical

interaction between the different ingredients of the mixture is

a necessary and sufficient condition that allows the permanent

fixation of cyclodextrin or cyclodextrin derivatives to a fiber

in order to improve its absorption properties.

Moreover, the polymers of mono- and polycarboxylic acids in

Trinh have a role of shape retention, whereas in the present

application the poly(carboxylic) acids are reticulant agents,

participating actively polymerization/cross-linking to

reactions.

No element disclosed by Trinh would suggest to a person

skilled in the art to use a composition comprising cyclodextrin

or a cyclodextrin derivative and a poly(carboxylic) acid in the

manner described in the present application.

Regarding the process for treating a fiber disclosed in the

present application (as described in the new claim 11), this

process is characterized by:

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a combination of different steps: impregnation of the

fiber with an aqueous solution to obtain an

impregnated fiber; drying said impregnated fiber at a

temperature in the range of 40 to 150°C to obtain a

treated fiber; heating said treated fiber to a

between .150 220°C, temperature and the

obtained after these three steps being the formation

well characterized chemical bonds in polymers

fixed to or coating said fiber;

a specific selection of conditions of temperature for

the drying and heating step that allows to obtain as

with product fiber improved

capacities.

The applicant believes that it would not be obvious to a

person skilled in the art and aware of the teachings of Trinh

either to follow the combination of steps as described in the

process of present application, or to make a selection of

conditions that allow to permanently fix cyclodextrin or

cyclodextrin derivative to a fiber as described in the present

application.

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Moreover, the method for treating textiles disclosed by Trinh is destined for in-home use. Its purpose (wrinkle control and odor-absorption) is attained by applying the disclosed composition onto a textile to obtain a temporary effect (between two washes). In the present application the process described is destined to industrial use, its aim (improving the absorption properties of a fiber) being obtained by permanent fixation of cyclodextrin to the fiber.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
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w. At 12

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